

Matthew Footer
250 Evandale Ave, Apt 3
Mountain View CA 94043

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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

The US is behind the times when it comes to decent connectivity. I've traveled to Europe and Africa and have seen connectivity that is better than what we currently have in the US. The reason for such better connectivity in other countries is that the government's virtually require competition where as here in the US it's nonexistent. Case and point is the cable industry in years past, each town/city became a one cable company town with zero choice by citizens.

My current experience is that the major carrier (in my home area it's ATT) is not properly maintaining the infrastructure and can't even make an intelligent diagnosis when there's a problem with the line: this has occurred no less than 5 times in 2 years. In the majority of those cases I have to first PROVE that the problem is on their end before they agree to even investigate the problem. We need companies which are NOT beholden to the shareholders and are beholden to the citizens of the US. It's time that the US gets great connectivity for all Americans and not great payouts for a group of shareholders.

Please do not refer to me as a "consumer", I am a CITIZEN; and I vote.

Matthew Footer